

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-41. (Cancelled)

42. (Currently amended) A method of performing surgery on the vertebrae of the spine of a subject, said method comprising:

providing a spinal bridge,

attaching said spinal bridge at least one end to a first vertebrae in the spine of the subject, said spinal bridge being free to move in space as one unit with follow movement of the spine of the subject;

mounting a surgical robot on said bridge; and

performing a surgical procedure on at least said first vertebra,

said method being such that movement of the spine does not affect the position of said robot ~~enabling the performance of said surgical procedure,~~ relative to said at least ~~one~~ first vertebra, enabling the performance of said surgical procedure.

43. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 42, further comprising the steps of accommodating said surgical robot at a number of predetermined locations adapted for positioning said robot on said bridge, and performing said surgery with said robot on a plurality of said vertebrae in a single procedure.

44. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 43 and wherein said robot can perform said surgical procedures on a plurality of said vertebrae with a single registration process.

45. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 42, further comprising the steps of mounting said robot on a moveable slide on said bridge, such that adjustment of the position of said slide on said bridge enables surgery to be performed on a plurality of vertebrae in a single procedure.

46. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 45 and wherein said robot can perform said surgical procedures on a plurality of said vertebrae with a single registration process.

47. (New) A method according to claim 42 and wherein said bridge is also attached to any of a second vertebra of the subject's spine, the subject's skull and the subject's pelvic bone.

48. (New) A method according to claim 42 and wherein said step of attaching said spinal bridge to a first vertebrae is performed by means of either of a bone clamp and at least one K-wire.

49. (New) A method according to claim 42, further comprising utilizing a navigational position probe associated with a computer assisted surgery system, such that the position of said bridge and of said first vertebra are known to said system.